

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 /126 W
-----031078 232246Z /64

P 231744Z JUL 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1279
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

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USMTN
ACTION STR PASS ELECTRICALLY FOR LANDE, FLAIG
STR PASS CODEL
PASS AGRICULTURE FOR HUDSON

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: MTN, ETRD, PO
SUBJECT: MTN: PORTUGUESE TARIFF REQUESTS OF U.S.

REFS: (A) GENEVA 8334, (B) LISBON 4214

1. PORTUGUESE DEL (NUNES) HAND-DELIVERED COPIES OF
PORTUGUESE REQUEST LISTS OF U.S. FOR TARIFF CONCESSIONS
(AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY) ON JUNE 22. NUNES NOTED THAT
THE REQUEST LISTS WERE QUITE MODEST, AND REPRESENT A
SUBSTANTIAL REFINEMENT AND SCALING DOWN OF THE "INDICATIVE
LIST" OF REQUESTS NUNES HAD INFORMALLY SHOWN MTN DEL
SEVERAL WEEKS EARLIER.

2. AGRICULTURAL TARIFF REQUESTS INCLUDE SKINNED AND BONED
SARDINES (TSUS 112.86) AND STILL WINE CONTAINING OVER 14
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PERCENT ALCOHOL (TSUS 167.37). THESE ITEMS WERE CLEARLY
IDENTIFIED ON THE INDICATIVE LIST AND HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN
REPORTED TO WASHINGTON IN REFTEL A. AN ADDITIONAL
AGRICULTURAL REQUEST IN WHICH PORTUGAL IS THE PRINCIPAL
SUPPLIER, TOMATO PASTE AND SAUCE (TSUS 141.65), APPEARS ON
THE CURRENT REQUEST LIST, BUT DID NOT APPEAR ON THE

INDICATIVE LIST.

3. MTN DEL (MARSH) INFORMED NUNES THAT BECAUSE OF EARLY SUBMISSION BY MTN DEL OF REQUESTS ON SARDINES AND STILL WINE, THE U.S. REVISED TARIFFS OFFER CONTAINED OFFERS ON BOTH THESE ITEMS. WE NOTED THAT MODERATE REDUCTION ON SARDINES REFLECTED THE SENSITIVITY OF OUR DOMESTIC INDUSTRY TO ANY REDUCTION ON THIS ITEM, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF MEAGER OFFERS BY MAJOR IMPORTERS ON FISH AND FISH PRODUCTS. ON STILL WINE, WE NOTED THE U.S. IS OFFERING A 30 PERCENT REDUCTION WHICH WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN IF WE COULD NOT OBTAIN LIBERALIZATION OF FOREIGN BARRIERS ON U.S. WINES. WE TOLD NUNES THAT REDUCTION OF THE DUTY ON TOMATO PASTE AND SAUCE WAS ALSO POLITICALLY SENSITIVE AND PORTUGAL SHOULD NOT EXPECT U.S. ACTION IF WE DID NOT RECEIVE MEANINGFUL OFFERS FROM PORTUGAL AND MEXICO (SECOND SUPPLIER). NUNES THANKED MTN DEL FOR ITS EFFORTS TO EXPEDITE CONSIDERATION OF PORTUGUESE REQUESTS, AND CONFIRMED OUR INFORMATION (REFTEL B) THAT PORTUGAL'S OFFER PROBABLY COULD BE TABLED BEFORE JULY 15. WE TOLD NUNES THAT WITHOUT THE OFFER WE COULD NOT GUARANTEE THAT DIFFICULT ITEMS SUCH AS SARDINES AND STILL WINES WOULD REMAIN IN THE U.S. OFFER AFTER JULY 15.

4. REGARDING PORTUGAL'S INDUSTRIAL REQUESTS, WE OBSERVED THAT FOUR OF THE EIGHT ITEMS WERE CERAMIC DINNERWARE WHERE A U.S. OFFER, INCLUDING NOMENCLATURE REVISION, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WOULD BE TABLED SHORTLY. (OTHER INDUSTRIAL ITEMS ARE TSUS 325.10; 338.15; 532.24; 720.28; AND 745.32.) IN ALL CASES, PORTUGAL IS REQUESTING MAXIMUM REDUCTION PERMITTED UNDER U.S. TRADE ACT.

5. WE ALSO USED OCCASION TO QUERY NUNES ON WHETHER GOP WOULD HAVE TECHNICAL-LEVEL BACKUP IN GENEVA DURING JULY. NUNES STATED HE HAD RECOMMENDED THIS TO LISBON, BUT HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A REPLY TO HIS REQUEST.

6. DRAFTED BY MARSH. MCDONALD

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TARIFF SCHEDULES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA09594
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780263-0037
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA USMTN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806111/aaaafjuu.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 8c1f4f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION STR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 GENEVA 8334, 78 LISBON 4214
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2173218
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 970819
Subject: MTN: PORTUGUESE TARIFF REQUESTS OF U.S.
TAGS: ETRD, PO, US, MTN
To: STATE INFO LISBON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8c1f4f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014